

October 12-14, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Low-cost mediation, related services highlighted on "Conflict Resolution Day"

[Press release](#)

Detroit Free Press: As justices ponder Michigan's affirmative action ban, observers will eye Kennedy

"Thousands are expected to gather outside Tuesday as the U.S. Supreme Court takes up oral arguments over Michigan's affirmative action ban, in what court watchers nationally are calling one of the most important cases on the docket this fall. The case centers on Proposal 2, a 2006 voter-passed initiative banning the use of race in public settings, including in admission decisions at Michigan's public universities."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Plaintiffs to focus on U-M policy; Justices to hear race should be among 50 factors in admissions

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Federal courts to remain open through Oct. 17

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: New sentence ordered in UP woman's death

"The Michigan appeals court says an Upper Peninsula judge was too generous with a drunken driver convicted of accidentally killing his girlfriend. Thomas Murdock was sentenced to a minimum of two years in prison for drunken driving causing death — a year less than the guidelines in his case. The appeals court is sending the case back to Alger County Judge William Carmody."

[Full story](#)

Note: This Associated Press article also ran in the Detroit Free Press, the Lansing State Journal and other media outlets.

The Courier-Leader/Paw Paw: County will use \$250,000 grant for Swift and Sure Sanction Probation program

"Van Buren County Circuit Judge Kathleen Brickley asked commissioners Tuesday afternoon during their Committee of the Whole (COW) to accept the Swift and Sure Sanction Probation Program Grant award totaling \$250,000.... According to Teresa French, program coordinator, the grant will attempt to improve public safety by enhanced monitoring of high risk probationers which will be combined with offering Mental Health and Substance Abuse services to program participants."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Herald-Palladium/St. Joseph: VB gets grant for Swift and Sure

[Full story](#)

The Courier-Leader/Paw Paw: Poster display honors survivors of domestic violence

"October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. In recognition of the month, the Domestic Violence Coalition is sponsoring a poster display from the Beating Hearts Project. The exhibition is on display in the Van Buren County Court-house lobby until Friday, Oct. 18."

[Full story](#)

Daily Press & Argus: Tasty fundraiser to benefit at-risk youth; Dessert at Dusk set for Oct. 20 in Howell

"Midcourse Correction Challenge Camp is hosting its fifth Dessert at Dusk fundraiser to benefit at-risk youth.... Midcourse began serving the Livingston Juvenile Court in 1990 and since has expanded its services to Eaton and Shiawassee counties' juvenile courts, local schools, various youth-assistance programs and private referrals."

[Full story](#)

The Daily Telegram/Adrian: Locker suggestion for county court visitors shot down

"Purses and cellular telephones must stay in the car when people visit Lenawee County's judicial building. A suggestion was shot down in the last week for installing lockers to hold items banned at the security check station in the lobby of the courts building."

[Full story](#)

Flint Journal: Court rejects Dan Hall's request that family members care for infant he sexually abused

"The family of a Mt. Morris man convicted of sexually abusing his six-month-old daughter will not be able to obtain custody of the man's children, the Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled. The Court of Appeals on Oct. 10 upheld a Genesee Circuit Court ruling that prevents Daniel Hall and his family from obtaining custody of Hall's two young children."

[Full story](#)

The Herald-Palladium/St. Joseph: County hopes to secure funds for 1839 Courthouse Square

"The 1839 Courthouse Square in Berrien Springs would be incorporated into Berrien County's park system under a proposal now under review.... The county has owned the block of buildings since 2005. The block includes the 1839 Courthouse, oldest in the state, the 1870 sheriff's house, 1830 Murdock log house and other buildings."

[Full story](#)

Jackson Citizen Patriot: City of Jackson sued over rental inspection fees plaintiff claims violate the state constitution

"The city of Jackson again finds itself in the midst of a lawsuit, this time over the city's rental registry and consequent inspection fees. Legacy Five LLC, owned by Mary Ann Eyde of Lansing, filed a class action suit against the city in the Michigan Court of Appeals on Monday, Oct. 7."

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: Mental health court opens for business

"Macomb County Circuit Court will launch a mental health court docket this week aimed at helping defendants get community-based treatment, according to court officials. 'This method of addressing mentally ill offenders offers a great deal of hope,' said Probate Court Judge Carl Marlinga, who is scheduled to begin screening candidates for his docket on Tuesday."

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Mount Clemens hosts Columbus Day Parade

"It was a celebrazione -- Italian for celebration -- of the culture, history and heritage of Italy during the Columbus Day Parade on Main Street in downtown Mount Clemens on Saturday.... The Columbus Day Parade Committee honored two local politicians who are Italian Americans as state Rep. Anthony Forlini

was named grand marshal and the event paid tribute to Michigan Supreme Court Justice David Viviano and his family."

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Pilot program in Kent County hopes aims for better outcomes, savings in foster care system

"Kent County is a part of a new pilot program for children in the foster care system.... In the pilot program, non-profit agencies would handle all foster care cases in Kent County, almost from start to finish. Michigan's Department of Human Services would still have responsibility to investigate allegations of child abuse and neglect, and it would still be responsible for holding these agencies accountable."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Grand Rapids Press: Kent County developing model to privatize foster care; state may follow plan

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: First Tuesday features Justice McCormack

"The Oakland County Bar Association's Membership Committee presented Michigan Supreme Court Justice Bridget Mary McCormack at its 'First Tuesday Networking and Lunch Social' on Tuesday, Oct. 1, at the Iroquois Club in Bloomfield Hills."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Retired judge honored with award

"Former Cooley Law School Board member, retired Judge Donna T. Morris has been honored by the State Bar of Michigan with the Frank J. Kelley Distinguished Public Service Award.... Morris, a 1977 graduate of Cooley, is a retired Midland County Probate Court judge. She led the drive to plan, create and run the Midland County Juvenile Care Center."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: City's medical marijuana ban at Supreme Court

"The Michigan Supreme Court has heard arguments about a Grand Rapid suburb's efforts to ban medical marijuana, even though it's legal under state law. The court held a hearing last Thursday on a challenge to the law that the city of Wyoming adopted in 2010 ordinance."

[Full story](#)